IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Mantyla et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No.:

Unassigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Docket: 669-78

For:

P-TRAP FOR PLUMBING

Dated: February 5, 2002

DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

Date February 5, 2002 Label No ET341493612US I hereby certify that on the date indicated above I deposited this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 by "EXPRESS MAIL to ADDRESSEE" service.

Box Patent Application Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.53 ACCOMPANYING NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee for this application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3 and 8 as follows:

3. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein one of said first and second coupler portions comprises a bulb and the other of said first and second coupler portions comprises a socket sized so that said bulb may be closely received within said socket, said seal being sized and shaped to be inserted between said bulb and socket to form a liquid tight seal.

8. (Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said seal is in the form of a ring which is generally wedge shaped in cross section and which has an inner seal surface, an outer seal surface and a bottom thrust face.

<u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 3 and 8 have been amended to avoid multiple dependencies. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this amendment, the undersigned would be pleased to address them by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

Ludomir A. Budzyn

Registration No.: 40,540
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Endown Budger

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP 6900 Jericho Turnpike Syosset, New York 11791 (973) 331-1700

<u>VERSION OF AMENDMENT WITH MARKINGS</u> SHOWING CHANGES

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 3. (Amended) The device of claim[s] 1 [or 2] wherein one of said first and second coupler portions comprises a bulb and the other of said first and second coupler portions comprises a socket sized so that said bulb may be closely received within said socket, said seal being sized and shaped to be inserted between said bulb and socket to form a liquid tight seal.
- 8. (Amended) The device of claim[s] 1 [or 2] wherein said seal is in the form of a ring which is generally wedge shaped in cross section and which has an inner seal surface, an outer seal surface and a bottom thrust face.